

Senate File 2085 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2085

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the use of safety helmets by certain young
2 persons operating motorized bicycles, and providing a
3 penalty.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.275, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. *Motorized bicycle operators —*
4 *helmets.* A person who is under eighteen years of age shall wear
5 a properly adjusted and fastened safety helmet when operating
6 a motorized bicycle. The safety helmet shall be worn at all
7 times when the motorized bicycle is in motion. For purposes
8 of this subsection, "safety helmet" means a motorcycle safety
9 helmet that complies with the standards and specifications
10 established under 49 C.F.R. § 571.218.

11 Sec. 2. Section 805.8A, subsection 6, Code Supplement 2011,
12 is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

13 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Occ.* Section 321.275, subsection 9.....\$ 100.

14 EXPLANATION

15 This bill requires a person under 18 years of age to wear
16 a safety helmet when operating a motorized bicycle. The bill
17 specifies that the safety helmet must meet federal standards
18 for motorcycle helmets and must be worn by the driver at all
19 times when the motorized bicycle is in motion. A violation of
20 the helmet requirement is a simple misdemeanor punishable by a
21 scheduled fine of \$100.

22 Pursuant to current law, a violation of a requirement
23 for operation of a motorized bicycle qualifies as a moving
24 violation and, as such, is grounds for cancellation of the
25 person's license to operate a motorized bicycle. A person
26 whose license is canceled may reapply for a license after 30
27 days. If a person has an instruction permit or intermediate
28 driver's license, a conviction for a moving violation subjects
29 the permittee or licensee to remedial driver improvement action
30 and may be cause for suspension of the license or permit.
31 If the person has a special minor's license, or "school"
32 license, a conviction for a moving violation is grounds for
33 license suspension at the discretion of the department of
34 transportation, and two such violations result in mandatory
35 revocation of the license.